host computer has been installed for more efficient monitoring of the work of money order transmission through the system.

Recovery of Losses suffered by VSNL and MTNL

†1262. SHRI RAMA SHANKAR KAUSHIK:
PROF. RAM GOPAL YADAV:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken or are considering to take any step to recover the amount of crores of rupees from a person who had caused this loss to Videsh Sanchar Nigam Ltd. and MTNL in the first week of February whereas Government have sent him to jail only;

(b) if so, the details and time-limit thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasosn therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) to (c) CBI arrested a person by name of Shri Sunil P. Mittal in the last week of January, 2000 who was subsequently granted bail by the Court in February 2000. The case is with CBI for further detailed investigation and recovery from Shri Mittal shall depend on the results of CBI investigations and the judgement of the Court., Keeping in view the terms of the agreement between VSNL and the party.

Waiving of Licence Fee of Defaulting Telecom Companies

1263. SHRI ABANI ROY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry of Finance has recently directed the Department of Telecom to canoel the licences of the defaulting Telecom firms who could not pay their licence fee dues by 31st January, 2000;

(b) if so, the action taken by DoT on such directives made by the Finance Ministry;

(c) the names of the Telecom firms which have not paid their licence fee dues as on 31st January, 2000; and

(d) the steps Government propose to take to recover dues from them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) and (b) Sir, no such direction was received from

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.

Ministry of Finance (MoF). However, in the process of implementation of Migration of existing Basic and Cellular Service Licensees to the revenue sharing regime of New Telecom Policy-1999 (NTP-99), Inter-ministerial consultations were held and comments from various Ministries including Ministry of Finance (MoF) were obtained.

(c) The name of Telecom firms who have been permitted migration to New Telecom Policy-1999 (NTP-99) regime and who have not paid the licence fee dues as on 31.1.2000 in respect of existing Basic and Cellular Licenses, is given in Statement (*See* below)

(d) The extension of time limit for payment of outstanding dues in terms of Migration Package has been granted upto 15.3.2000, with additional penalties, as a final chance to the licensees failing which the Migration Package shall be automatically withdrawn without any further notice. Further, it will be open to the Government to take such legal remedies as are open to it.

Statement

Name of Telecom Firms (Who have been permitted Migration to new Telecom Policy, 1999 Regime) which have not Paid their Licence Fee dues as on 31st January, 2000:

I. Cellular mobile Telephone Service Licensee Companies:

M/s. Birla Communications Limited

M/s. Fascel Limited

M/s. Hexacom India Limited

M/s. J.T. Mobile Limited

M/s. Modicom Network (P) Limited

M/s. Skycell Communication Limited

II. Basic Service Licensee Companies:

M/s. Reliance Telecom Limited

M/s Hughes Ispat Limited

NOTE: It is, however, mentioned that all the above companies except M/s. Modicom Network (P) Limited (Cellular) have now paid (as upto 01.03.2000) the outstanding licence fee dues in terms of Migration Package.